CLAIMS

We claim:

1.   A Multimedia Terminating Device for providing multimedia content transmitted over a communication network and received from a broadband connection comprising:

broadband communication circuitry for receiving the multimedia content in a broadband format and extracting the content from the broadband format; and

decoder circuitry for receiving the content from the broadband communication circuitry, decoding the content and providing the decoded content to at least one user device based on the type of content.

2. The module of claim 1 wherein the broadband communication circuitry includes cable modem circuitry.

3. The module of claim 2 wherein the broadband format is DOCSIS.

4. The module of claim 1 wherein the decoder circuitry includes a digital signal processor.

5. The module of claim 1 wherein the decoder circuitry includes a graphics processor.

6. The module of claim 1 wherein the broadband communication

circuitry and the decoder circuitry are interconnected using a bus interface between a MAC of the broadband communication circuitry and a MAC of the decoder circuitry.

7. The module of claim 1 wherein the decoder circuitry includes an audio output.

8. The module of claim 1 wherein the decoder circuitry includes at least one video output.

9. The module of claim 1 wherein the decoder circuitry includes a digital data connection host for connecting an external digital device.

10. The module of claim 9 wherein the external device is a hard disk drive.

11. A method for transporting a digital multimedia content over a broadband network from a central location to one or more subscribers:

converting the digital multimedia content in a digital multimedia content signal at the central location;

5   formatting the digital content signal into a broadband-transport-format signal;

transporting the broadband-formatted digital content signal toward the subscribers;

receiving the broadband-formatted digital content signal with 10   broadband communication circuitry;

extracting the digital multimedia content from the broadband-transport-format signal; and

providing the digital multimedia content at one or more outputs according to content type.

15

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the broadband-transport-format signal is a DOCSIS signal.

13. The method of claim 11 wherein the broadband communication 20   circuitry is cable modem circuitry.

14. The method of claim 11 wherein one of the outputs is a video output.

25   15. The method of claim 11 wherein one of the outputs is an audio output.

16. The method of claim 11 wherein one of the outputs is a digital data host output.

5   17. The method of claim 12 further comprising applying DOCSIS features to the broadband-transport-format signal to improve the transport thereof.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein a Dynamic Service Flow MIB is
10   used to reduce jitter.

19. The method of claim 17 wherein Dynamic Channel Change is applied at the broadband communication circuitry to select a transport channel based on bandwidth needed for the type of content contained in the
15   broadband-formatted digital content signal.